

**O: Two Lanes/Shoulder Section****P: Four Lanes Divided with Raised Median – Curb & Gutter, Widened Curb Lanes**

If there is sufficient bicycle travel along the thoroughfare to justify a bicycle lane or bikeway, additional right-of-way may be required to contain the bicycle facilities. The North Carolina Bicycle Facilities Planning and Design Guidelines should be consulted for design standards for bicycle facilities. Cross sections “N”, “O” and “P” are typically used to accommodate bicycle travel.

**General**

The urban curb and gutter cross sections all illustrate the sidewalk adjacent to the curb with a buffer or utility strip between the sidewalk and the minimum right-of-way line. This permits adequate setback for utility poles. If it is desired to move the sidewalk farther away from the street to provide additional separation for pedestrians or for aesthetic reasons, additional right-of-way must be provided to insure adequate setback for utility poles.

The right-of-way shown for each typical cross section is the minimum amount required to contain the street, sidewalks, utilities, and drainage facilities. Cut and fill requirements may require either additional right-of-way or construction easements. Obtaining construction easements is becoming the more common practice for urban roadway construction.

**Bicycle Cross Sections**

Cross sections B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, and B-5 are typical bicycle cross sections. Contact the NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation for more information regarding these cross sections.

**B-1: Four Lanes Divided with Wide Outside Lanes****B-2: Five Lanes with Wide Outside Lanes**

A widened outside lane is an effective way to accommodate bicyclists riding in the same lane with motor vehicles. With a wide outside lane, motorists do not have to change lanes to pass a bicyclist. The additional width in the outside lane also improves sight distance and provides more room for vehicles to turn onto the roadway. Therefore, on roadways with bicycle traffic, widening the outside lane can improve the capacity of that roadway. Also, by widening the outside lane by a few extra feet both motorists and bicyclists have more space in which to maneuver. This facility type is generally considered for use in urban, suburban, and occasionally rural conditions on roadways where there is a curb and gutter. Wide outside lanes can be applied to several different roadway cross sections.

**B-3: Bicycle Lanes on Collector Streets**

Bicycle lanes may be considered when it is desirable to delineate road space for preferential use by cyclists. Streets striped with bicycle lanes should be part of a connected bikeway system rather than being an isolated feature. Bicycle lanes function most effectively in mid-block situations by separating bicyclists from overtaking motor vehicles. Integrating bicyclists into complicated intersection traffic patterns can sometimes be problematic. Strip development areas, or roadways with a high number of commercial driveways, tend to be less suitable for bicycle lanes due to frequent and unpredictable motorist turning movements across the path of straight-through cyclists. Striped bike lanes can be effective as a safety treatment, especially for less experienced bicyclists. Two-lane residential/collector streets with lower traffic volume,